Canton April 27th 1837.

My Dear Brethren—

The late Dr. Morrison, and some others who have long resided in this country, often felt, and long ago express'd, a strong desire that the inhahabitants of Christendom should be brought into more intimate acquaintance with the Chinese. But to the present hour, what has been accomplished? What friendly relations have the kings and rulers of the west established with the emperor of China? Where are the men in Christendom who are well acquainted with the necessities, wants, and woes of this great people? Are not the Chinese *human beings* like ourselves? Have not they and we one common Father? Has not one and the same Lord—mighty to save and rich unto all who call on him—offered up himself a sacrifice both for them and for us? But how can they *call* on him of whom they have not heard? Can gods of wood & stone, can deified heroes or sages give a ransom for the sins of the soul? Is there any other gospel than that which the apostles preached? Any other sure Word of prophecy beside the Holy Scriptures? Any other name, except Emmanuel's, by which poor man can be saved from the wrath to come? In that 'undiscovered country' to which we go, what must be the condition of those who live and die idolaters, liars, profane, proud, extortioners, effeminate, unholy, abusers of themselves with mankind, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful? Has the last and most solemn command of our exalted Savior—to go and teach all nations—been nullified? — — — — — — — — —

The case is plain; the path of duty, clear. If friendly relations are ever to be established, and the glorious gospel of the blessed God, with all its accompaniments, enjoyed by the Chinese, then a knowledge of their language, character, manners, customs, &c., *must* be acquired. Impressed with these views, the

proprietors
of the Chinese Repository, commenced its publication about five years ago — I have sent many of its nos. to your address gratuitously — They would, had they the means, continue to do so. They have not, & the object of this is to inform you that they must discontinue sending it: let me, however, solicit your favor in its behalf. If a few subscribers can be obtained in all the different parts of the U. States the means of ready communication will thereby be secured.

I have many things I would write but for the present must refer you to the pages of the Repository.

In the bonds of Xn love yours ever

E. C. Bridgman

Sept. 1837

P.S. Let this be entirely private; I have written the same to other societies to whom the work was sent gratis. The number for this month (Sept) will contain some account of the voyages of the Morrison to Japan & of the Himmaleh to Borneo, &c. —

Ys E.C.B.

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NEW YORK
MAR
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To the

Students in the Theol. Seminary

Princeston

N. Jersey—

"Himmaleh."

Rec. March 1838—